

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

IN RE: Bair Hugger Forced Air Warming
Products Liability Litigation

MDL No. 15-2666 (JNE/FLN)

This Document Relates to All Actions.

LAURA ALVORD,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

**3M COMPANY AND ARIZANT
HEALTHCARE, INC.,**

DEFENDANTS,

**FIRST AMENDED MASTER SHORT
FORM COMPLAINT AND JURY
TRIAL DEMAND**

1. Plaintiff, Laura Alvord, states and brings this civil action in MDL No. 15-2666, entitled *In Re: Bair Hugger Forced Air Warming Products Liability Litigation*. Plaintiff is filing this Short Form Complaint as permitted by Pretrial Order #8 of this Court.

PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. Plaintiff, Laura Alvord, is a resident and citizen of the State of Tennessee and claims damages as set forth below.

3. ~~Plaintiff's Spouse, _____, is a resident and citizen of the State of _____, and claims damages as set forth below.~~

4. Jurisdiction is proper based upon diversity of Citizenship.

5. Proper Venue: The District Court in which remand trial is proper and where this Complaint would have been filed absent the direct filing order by this Court is the Middle District of Tennessee.

6. Plaintiff brings this action:

 X On behalf of herself;

~~_____ In a representative capacity as the _____ of the
_____ having been duly appointed as the
_____ by the _____ Court of _____.~~

~~A copy of the Letters of Administration for a wrongful death claim is
annexed hereto if such letters are required for the commencement of
such a claim by the Probate, Surrogate or other appropriate court of the
jurisdiction of the decedent.~~

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

7. On or about February 22, 2017, Plaintiff underwent surgery during which the Bair Hugger Forced Air Warming system (hereinafter “Bair Hugger”) was used during the course and scope of her surgery at Centennial Medical Center, 2300 Patterson Street, in Nashville, Tennessee by Dr. Lucas Burton.

8. Contaminants introduced into Plaintiff’s open surgical wound as a direct and proximate result of use of the Bair Hugger during the subject surgery resulted in Plaintiff developing a periprosthetic joint infection (“PJI”), also known as a deep joint infection (“DJI”). Plaintiffs’ medical records indicate Staphylococcus epidermidis was discovered.

9. As a result of Plaintiff’s infection caused by the Bair Hugger, Plaintiff has undergone a two staged procedure on or about January 12, 2018, and March 14, 2018, at Centennial Medical Center, 2300 Patterson Street, in Nashville, Tennessee by Dr. Lucas Burton.

ALLEGATIONS AS TO INJURIES

10. (a) Plaintiff claims damages as a result of:

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| <u> X </u> | INJURY TO HERSELF |
| <u> </u> | INJURY TO THE PERSON REPRESENTED |
| <u> </u> | WRONGFUL DEATH |
| <u> </u> | SURVIVORSHIP ACTION |
| <u> X </u> | ECONOMIC LOSS |

~~(b) Plaintiff's spouse claims damages as a result of:~~

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u> </u> | LOSS OF SERVICES |
| <u> </u> | LOSS OF CONSORTIUM |

11. Defendants, by their actions or inactions, proximately caused the injuries to Plaintiff.

DEFENDANT-SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS AND THEORIES OF RECOVERY

12. The following claims and allegations are asserted by Plaintiff and are herein adopted by reference>

| | |
|--------------|---|
| <u> X </u> | FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION - NEGLIGENCE; |
| <u> X </u> | SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION - STRICT LIABILITY; |
| <u> X </u> | FAILURE TO WARN |
| <u> X </u> | DEFECTIVE DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE |
| <u> X </u> | THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION – BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY; |
| <u> X </u> | FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION- BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY LAW OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 47-2-314, ET SEQ. |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| <u> X </u> | FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION- VIOLATION OF THE MINNESOTA PREVENTION OF CONSUMER FRAUD ACT; |
| <u> X </u> | SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION – VIOLATION OF THE MINNESOTA DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT; |
| <u> X </u> | SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION- VIOLATION OF THE MINNESOTA UNLAWFUL TRADE PRACTICES ACT; |
| <u> X </u> | EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION- VIOLATION OF THE MINNESOTA FALSE ADVERTISING ACT; |
| <u> X </u> | NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION- CONSUMER FRAUD AND/OR UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES UNDER LAW OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 47-18-101, ET SEQ. |
| <u> X </u> | TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION – NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION; |
| <u> X </u> | ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION- FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION; |
| <u> X </u> | TWELFTH CAUSE OF ACTION – FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT; |
| <u> </u> | THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION – LOSS OF CONSORTIUM; and |
| <u> X </u> | FOURTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION – UNJUST ENRICHMENT. |

In addition to the above, Plaintiff asserts the following additional causes of action under applicable state law:

 Punitive damages

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For compensatory damages;
2. Punitive damages;
3. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;
4. Statutory damages and relief of the state whose laws will govern this action;
5. Costs and expenses of this litigation;
6. Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as provided by law;
7. Equitable relief in the nature of disgorgement;
8. Restitution of remedy Defendants' unjust enrichment; and
9. All other relief as the Court deems necessary, just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b), Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury as to all claims in Complaint so triable.

Dated: August 9, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

MESHBESHER & SPENCE, LTD.

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